**Theme Detailer**

Name: Boram Lee Meeting # 6 Pages: 377-444

Literature Circle's Name: *It’s Kind of a Book Club*

**Theme #1**

**Development: from immature boy to experienced man**

**Passage 1: on page 438 and the last paragraph**

“How are you feeling?”

“I’m feeling like I can handle it.”

After Craig leaves the hospital, his family always asks him how he feels. At first, he is cheerless to live in the real society but he soon shows his determination. He tells himself he can handle not only the situation, but also his feeling. He tries to manage his emotion and he endlessly puts his effort to control himself. His resolute quote proves that he gets stronger and does not avoid the real life anymore.

**Passage 2: on page 397 and 3rd paragraph**

“People are screwed up in this world. I’d rather be with someone screwed up and open about it than somebody perfect and… you know… ready to explode.”

When Aaron comes to the hospital to see Craig, Craig is changed. Aaron apologies for his misbehavior and Craig forgives him and advises him. Craig is not a young immature boy anymore. He is strong-minded, confident, and now is ambitious. As he mentions, he is “ready to explode” the world and this displays his new point of view toward the world that he is no longer afraid. His thoughts are changed; they become more developed and matured.

**Passage 3: on page 392 and the last paragraph**

“Yes,” I say. “Yes. I have thought about it.”

“When? Just now?”

I smile. “Absolutely.”

“And what do you think?”

I clap my hands together and stand up. “I think I should call my parents and tell them that I want to transfer schools.”

Craig works hard to get into the top high school. However, he soon drops out because he cannot endure the situations confronting him. He hates to stay at the school and after long consideration; he decides to quit and to transfer the school. This illustrates his new objectivity in his life and he shows his progress and development. He can now make a right decision.

**Theme #2 Positive attitude toward the life**

**Passage 4 on page 444 and the last paragraph**

Ski. Sled. Play basketball. Jog. Run. Run. Run.

Run home. Run home and enjoy. Enjoy. Take these verbs and enjoy them. They’re yours, Craig. You deserve them because you chose them. You could have left them all behind but you chose to stay there.

So now live for real, Craig. Live. Live. Live. Live

Live.

This is one of my favorite quotations from the novel! This is the last sentence of the story that Craig is now ready to start new life and closes his story for the novel. Once he gets out from the hospital, we can only see his positive attitude toward the life. Here, he tries to enjoy his life whatever situation comes and is very determined to live.

**Passage 5 on page 433 and the last paragraph**

I hug her one more time and pull her down to the bed. And in my mind, I rise up from the bed and look down on us, and look down at everybody else in this hospital who might have the good fortune of holding a pretty girl right now, and then at the entire Brooklyn block, and then the neighborhood, and then Brooklyn, and then New York City, and then the whole Tri-State Area, and then this little corner of America – with laser eyes I can see into every house – and then the whole country and the hemisphere and now the whole stupid world, everyone in every bed, couch, futon, chair, hammock, love seat, and tent, everyone killing or touching each other… and I know that I’m the happiest of all of them.

Craig begins to have serious relationship with Noelle. From Noelle, he feels something new that he has not felt before, even from Nia. Before he comes to the hospital, he believes that he is the most miserable boy in the world; however, now he states that he likes the life and he is “the happiest of all of them.” This extreme emotional quotation proves that he no longer has negative attitude toward the society and moves forward the future.

**Passage 6 on page 388 and the last paragraph**

“I kinda like it in here,” I say to Dr. Minerva.

“This room?”

“No, the hospital.”

“When you’re finished, you can volunteer.”

“I talked to the guitar guy Neil about that. I think I’ll try. I can get school credit!”

“Is that the reason you should volunteer, Craig-”

“No, no…” I shake my head. “I’m just joking.”

“Ah.” Dr. Minerva cuts her face into a wide smile.

It is time for Craig to leave the hospital. Yet, he likes the hospital and feels sad to leave. When he talks to Dr. Minerva, he says that he wants to come back to the hospital for volunteer and makes a joke that “to get school credit.” He has not made any humor before and thus this witty comment shows that he now enjoys the life and finally recovers his composure. Dr. Minerva sees his changes and feels proud of Craig.